

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

**Confirmation No.: 9700**

Edward G. SHIFRIN et al.

Date: June 24, 2009

Serial No.: 10/561,354

Group Art Unit: 3733

Filed: December 19, 2005

Examiner: Jerry L. CUMBERLEDGE

For: STERNAL CLOSURE SYSTEM, METHOD AND APPARATUS THEREFOR

VIA EFS WEB

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT/SUBMISSION**

Sir:

This is a response to the Final Office Action mailed December 24, 2008 in the above-identified application. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

**FEE CALCULATION**

Any additional fee required has been calculated as follows:

   If checked, "Small Entity" status is claimed.

|  | No. Claims<br>After<br>Amendment |       | Highest No.<br>Previously<br>Paid For |      | Extra<br>Present |   | Rate                | ADDIT.<br>FEE |
|--|----------------------------------|-------|---------------------------------------|------|------------------|---|---------------------|---------------|
| TOTAL  | 35                               | MINUS | 34                                    | * =  | 1                | X | (\$26 SE or \$52)   | \$ 26.00      |
| INDEP  | 2                                | MINUS | 3                                     | ** = | 0                | X | (\$110 SE or \$220) | \$ 0.00       |
| First Presentation of Multiple Dependent Claim |                                  |       |                                       |      |                  | X | (\$195 SE or \$390) | \$ 0.00       |
| * not less than 20                             | ** not less than 3               |       |                                       |      |                  |   | TOTAL               | \$ 26.00      |

Credit card payment in the amount of \$26.00 is submitted via EFS-Web.

In the event the actual fee is greater than the payment submitted or is inadvertently not enclosed or if any additional fee during the prosecution of this application is not paid, the Patent Office is authorized to charge the underpayment to Deposit Account No. 15-0700.

### **CONTINGENT EXTENSION REQUEST**

If this communication is filed after the shortened statutory time period had elapsed and no separate Petition is enclosed, the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is petitioned, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), to extend the time for filing a response to the outstanding Office Action by the number of months which will avoid abandonment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.135. The fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17 should be charged to our Deposit Account No. 15-0700.

### **SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS**

1. \_\_\_\_ If checked, an abstract (an amended abstract) is submitted herewith.
2. \_\_\_\_ If checked, amendment(s) to the drawings are submitted herewith.
3. \_\_\_\_ If checked, amendment(s) to the specification are submitted herewith.
4. ✓ If checked, amendment(s) to the claims are submitted herewith.